

## Season 2 Episode 20

## Howard Day

Ivan walks down a bright sunny street in the main Ultraverse city. He sees everyone that walks down the street has a pin button on them of a red squiggly lined circle on a black background. Ivan walks to a coffee shop to place his order and said, "I will have a medium coffee with a..." The server also has one of those pin buttons on her and she said, "Sorry sir. I am not allowed to serve people that are not wearing their Howard Buttons." Ivan said, "What's a Howard Button? How do I get one?" The server ignores Ivan and more customers come up front and they get served while Ivan is pushed to the side.

Ivan walks down the Ultraverse street and he walks past a flock of people all with Howard Buttons and they give Ivan dirty looks and they push him off to the side. Ivan thinks, "Something is clearly out of line in the Ultraverse. Everyone is wearing these strange buttons and they have suddenly become obnoxious. I wonder who is behind this." Ivan walks around the city streets and he notices all the cars and flying transports suddenly stop in place. He also sees that everyone has stopped walking and is standing perfectly still with their heads tilted downwards. Ivan walks around the stopped civilians and Ivan said, "Would any of you tell me what is going on here?" Everyone ignores Ivan. Ivan spots Safron in a crowd of people. Ivan runs for Safron and he said, "Hey, Safron. What is going on here?" Ivan sees Safron has her head down and she also has a Howard Button. Safron lifts an eye up at Ivan. Safron quietly says, "It is the most vilest day in the Ultraverse. It is Howard Day." Ivan said, "What is this? Could you explain?" A large rugged strong hand grabs onto Ivan's head and turns him around. Ivan is put in front of a mean and rugged looking guy with white hair in an army crew cut and is dressed as an army man that is covered with medals. The army man said in an aggravated tone, "You should be explaining to me why you are defying me." Ivan said, "I am not defying you. I don't even know who you are. Who do you think you are?" The army man said, "You don't know who I am? Did your parents drop you on your head when you were born? Everyone knows who I am. I am the greatest hero in the Ultraverse. I am Colonel Stone Howard. This is my day. I have the right to punish those that do not comply." Howard grabs onto Ivan and he throws him in the back of an armored transport truck. It takes Ivan to a rusty old prison with mold everywhere.

Ivan is thrown into a wet and dirty cell. Ivan looks across from him to another cell and he sees a bald headed guy that looks like a short thug. The short thug said, "What'd they put you in here for?" Ivan said, "I have no idea." The bald thug said, "That's what they all say. I was put in here for defying Howard. He is just a schmuck that thinks he's better than us." Howard's voice booms, "I heard that!" Howard runs to the cell and he grabs the bald thug and he punches his skull to a point where it breaks. Howard drops the thug and his head is left stuck in position. Howard turns to Ivan and he said, "It is time we give you your punishment."

Ivan is placed into a dark theater where a projector behind him projects a grainy movie on the cinder block wall. It goes to black and white footage of Colonel Stone Howard in various battles where he arms himself with heavy duty weaponry and he blasts down enemies. He sees a powerful enemy with a bald head. He jumps and uses his fist to smack the head of the bald enemy leaving him dead. A narrator said, "Colonel Stone Howard is by far the greatest hero in the Ultraverse. He puts his life at risk to travel to all kinds of battlegrounds all over the Ultraverse just so he can dispatch justice to those that obstruct our freedom." More footage is shown on the screen of Colonel Stone Howard fighting in wars and being overly aggressive towards his enemies. The narrator continues, "The Ultraverse has come across all kinds of evil forces that wanted to make the citizens of the Ultraverse its mindless servants. Thanks to the efforts of Colonel Stone Howard, we have peace and freedom in the Ultraverse. Our people can live with each other in peace and prosperity and we owe it all to him. It is the least we can do to have a day to honor him by wearing his emblem button pin on your clothing and take a moment of your precious time to stop and reflect on what he has done for the Ultraverse." Footage is shown of people obstructing Howard Day and the narrator continues, "Some people oppose Howard Day. Those people are opposing the very freedom they enjoy. People that disrespect Howard Day are just as bad as those that Howard has fought against in the various wars he has given his service to. Don't be these people. Respect Howard Day and honor what the citizens of the Ultraverse love best, Freedom."

The movie ends and Howard confronts Ivan. Howard said, "You see now why you have made a grave mistake by going against me?" Ivan said, "I did not go against you. I didn't even know this day existed. I think it is unfair and unjust. I think you may be just as bad as those you have killed." Howard shows an oversized fist to Ivan's face and he said, "You have went against me and I have no tolerance for people that do that." Howard takes another look at Ivan and he said, "You look familiar to me. Aren't you one of those Ultraverse Monks?" Ivan said, "I am an Ultraverse Monk." Howard said, "Then there is no excuse for you or any of those monks to not know who I am." Ivan said, "I have lived in the Ultraverse for quite some time now and this is the first time I have ever heard of you or your day of the year. Most of what I know of the Ultraverse was taught to be my the Ultraverse Master Monks at the Ultraverse Monastery." Howard said, "I am going to have a talk with those monks."

Howard brings Ivan to the Ultraverse Monastery. Several Ultraverse Monks are gathered around in a large dojo and Grand Master Augi stands in front of them next to Howard and Ivan that just entered. Grand Master Augi said, "Meet the legendary, Colonel Stone Howard." Howard gets to a podium where he speaks into a microphone. He said, "I just lectured and punished one of your fellow monks for not following Howard Day protocols. Howard Day is the greatest day in the Ultraverse and I would expect you monks to do the best job of honoring Howard day. You monks may have fought against some of the Ultraverse's evils but none of them compare to the evils I have fought against. I think you Ultraverse Monks need more training. You monks must understand the truth of the harshest atrocities that the Ultraverse has to offer. You monks are all wimps that would never truly rid the Ultraverse of injustice. You will have more training. As of now, I am the lead commander of the Ultraverse Monks. You will all do as I say or suffer consequences worse than anything you have conceivably faced in the past."

Colonel Howard has a large training simulator installed in the dojo. The monks gather around Colonel Howard and Howard said, "This is where your training is going to be done from. This is a new state-of-the-art training simulator that is the most realistic training experience in the Ultraverse. You will now pile in and experience what I have experienced." Colonel Howard pushes a mound of Ultraverse Monks into the front door of the machine and he closes it tightly.

Ivan, Safron, Dirk, and Keith are with several other monks and they end up in a hot desert at the height of day while a bright yellow sun shines its light drenching the skins of the monks. The monks squint their eyes as they pan around looking out in the desert. Some monks gets overly hot to a point where they fall into the sand and they become overly dry and useless. Dirk said, "What is our objective? Are we just supposed to survive out here?" Another monk points and said, "It may be to kill that thing." A cloaked mystical figure with a jagged hood and a blacked out face appears. He takes out a scythe and he slashes it at the monks. The monks draw out their swords. The mystical figure uses his scythe and locks his scythe with Keith's sword. Keith duels the mystical figure. Dirk sends large mounds of silly string at the mystical figure and he gets weighed down. More monks pile on top of the figure and they start smacking him. The figure sends out a pulse of energy and it sends the monks flying off of him. He begins to generate energy spheres from his boney skeleton hands and he sends them at the monks. Ivan, Safron, Dirk, and Keith are left running away far out into the hot sparkly desert. The figure hovers over Ivan, Safron, Dirk, and Keith. He zips down at the monks and Keith draws his cyan bladed sword and he blocks the figure's scythe. Keith duels the figure some more. Keith said, "Retreat from him. I will slow him down."

Ivan, Safron, and Dirk run far out into the desert. They find pyramids and they run close to them. Safron said, "A lot of these pyramids or ancient temples often have a hidden brick or block that reveals a secret entrance." Safron pushes some of the bricks and she finds one that is pushed in and it opens revealing a secret tunnel into the pyramid. Ivan, Safron, and Dirk, run into the tunnel. They come across a dim temple where there are snakes sprawled all over the ancient dusty and dirty floor. Dirk grabs Ivan and Safron and he uses his silly string and he zips upwards and he hangs from the ceiling. The mystical figure enters the pyramid and he drops Keith's body and Keith's skin is red and dry and he is frozen in place.

Colonel Howard watches all of this from a control room. The figure dissolves and Howard enters the pyramid and walks up to Ivan, Safron, and Dirk. Howard said, "You monks claim to be the greatest heroes in the Ultraverse but clearly you are not. I gave you a simple challenge and you clearly did not pass it." Ivan said, "Well, what else were we supposed to do?" Howard said, "That is enough back talk. All the monks you came with are now horribly burned by the sun and are dehydrated and will be useless for weeks. All you did was fend for yourselves." Safron said, "That enemy is clearly invincible." Howard said, "He is not if you know his weakness. You could have tried smacking him down and crushing his skull. Just about any villain in the Ultraverse can be defeated by having their skull crushed. I guess you monks clearly need more testing."

Ivan, Safron, and Dirk are thrown in an icy tundra where snow and shards of ice are flying everywhere. Robots made out of ice use machine guns in their wrists to blast out bullets of ice at the monks. Ivan, Safron, and Dirk run away from the ice robots. They run

onto a large sheet of ice over a lake. The ice robots run to the edge of the ice lake as Ivan, Safron, and Dirk slide across it. The robots inject something into the ice and it causes the ice to break and it reveals the lake of icy cold water. Ivan, Safron, and Dirk are stuck on a platform of ice. Dirk grabs onto Ivan and Safron and he spots the opposite edge of the lake. Dirk jumps and he uses one of his silly string canisters to blast a string of silly string to the other side of the lake. While Dirk is in the air and is zipping over to the edge, he gets shot in the leg with one of the ice bullets and he loses his grip on the silly string canister.

Dirk throws Ivan and Safron to the edge of the lake and Dirk falls into the icy cold lake. Ivan and Safron run into a snowy forest. Ivan and Safron suddenly get ambushed by ice robots and they all aim their wrist cannons at them. Safron looks frozen and she said, "Ivan, I am too frozen to... do any... thing..." Safron falls into the snow and her skin turns blue. A yin-yang forms on Ivan and he forms into his yellow and green battle mech with a yin-yang on the chest with a flaming blue sword for one hand and a cannon for the other. Ivan blasts the ice robots and he viciously goes savage on them as he cuts them up.

Ivan gets close to Safron and he tries to warm her up. Colonel Howard steps out and he said, "If anyone were to survive, they would have to be on their feet at all times." Colonel Howard presses a button and they suddenly appear in a small metallic room. Ivan continues to warm Safron. Ivan said, "What is this place?" Colonel Howard said, "This is your most daring challenge to date. This challenge still only represents not even a percent of the dangers the Ultraverse truly has to offer." Colonel Howard jumps to the ceiling and disappears. Safron is warm enough to move and speak again. Safron said, "What is the challenge in this place?" Ivan said, "Howard wouldn't throw us into a place like this for nothing." A large heavy metal rectangular prism beam comes out from one of the walls and Ivan and Safron dodge it. Another one comes shooting out of the wall and another one shoots out from the exact spot opposite it and the two beams collide with each other. More of these metallic beams keeps spawning from the walls and Ivan and Safron jump over them and slide under some of them to dodge them. One of them almost hits Ivan and it just slightly brushes against his head leaving a small strip of blood on his cheek. Two of them go shooting at each other really fast and it sandwiches Safron's leg and it causes her leg bone to shatter. Safron falls in pain and yells, "Ivan!" Ivan goes to help her and more beams come shooting out of the walls and Ivan is forced to jump backwards to dodge them. Ivan dodges more beams as he sees more of them shoot from the ceiling and they hit the already wounded Safron.

The environment stops and Colonel Howard enters. He said, "I would expect more from you. You monks have been monks for years. How dare you not give me your best. Unless that is your best. That would be truly pathetic. I have never seen such fools claim themselves as heroes from anywhere in the Ultraverse. You are lucky I only had the metal beams set so they would only cause bodily injuries at most. These beams can kill if you set them for their full intensity."

Ivan visits the monastery's infirmary where he sees Dirk lying on a bed and his skin is blue and he is covered with ice. Ivan sees monks that are burned and dried from the desert simulation. One of the dried up monks said, "This is your fault, Ivan. If you never defied Howard Day, none of this would have happened. We all got punished for something you did." Ivan sees Safron in a bed and Safron said, "Howard is unfair and cruel. Yet, people in the Ultraverse have respected him for years." Ivan looks at several of the beds and he said,

“Almost every monk in the order is in this infirmary. They even got Keith.” Ivan goes to Keith’s bed and Keith has several IVs in him that are injecting water and fluids into his bloodstream.

Ivan goes to his house and he sees the Ultraverse Army Personnel have invaded Ivan’s house and they are looking through all his things. Ivan hides behind a mailbox and he thinks, “Howard must really hate me. He has invaded everything I have. He has crossed the line. I am not going to stand for this. If he wants a war, he is going to get one.”

Ivan goes to the Ultraverse Library and he looks at the librarian’s desk where Roswell would normally sit and Colonel Howard is there. Colonel Howard said, “Ivan. I suppose you have come to read all of my books on why I am significant to the Ultraverse and why you are not.” Colonel Howard has a stack of his books in his grips. Ivan looks around and he sees all the books in the library are about Colonel Howard. Ivan backs away from the library and out onto the street in front of it.” Ivan hears Roswell’s voice say, “Hey Ivan.” Ivan sees Roswell the anthropomorphic blue macaw parrot monk in an alleyway between buildings. Ivan said, “Roswell. Colonel Howard took everything from me.” Roswell said, “I know. He took my library job away and now he forces the Ultraverse Library to have nothing but books about him. Thankfully, he did not take this away from me.” Roswell lifts up one of his parrot feet to Ivan and it has a ring with a key dangling from it. Roswell said, “This is the key to the Ultraverse Archives. I am sure there is something we can find to rub dirt on Howard in there.” Ivan said, “That is why I came to the library in the first place.”

Roswell grabs onto Ivan’s shoulders and flies him to the roof of the Ultraverse Library. Roswell uses his key to open a hatch on the roof and Ivan and Roswell fall into the hidden secret Ultraverse Archives section of the library. Ivan and Roswell see large shelves filled with books, movie reels and more. Roswell goes to a section and he said, “Here it is.” Roswell finds a film reel on Colonel Stone Howard. Roswell sets up a film projector and they watch the film. It shows footage of Howard being brutal to civilians all over the Ultraverse. The narrator for the film said, “This is the truth about Colonel Stone Howard. The Ultraverse government wants us to view him as a hero but he is more of a villain than anything else. He terrorizes civilians all over the Ultraverse and he resorts to extreme measures to wipe out the enemy even if it means he has to destroy everything in his path to obtain his goal.” Footage is shown of Howard using a rocket launcher to destroy a whole city block just so he can find one enemy soldier.” The narrator continues, “Howard is technically an Ultraverse war criminal since these atrocities he committed count as war crimes in the law books of the Ultraverse.”

Ivan said, “If this footage was in this Ultraverse Archive, then why didn’t anyone release this footage to the public?” Roswell said, “A monk documentary film maker made this film and the Monk Order feared that if this film were released, it would cause Howard and the Ultraverse Army to become our enemies and they would start a war with us. Howard is considered to be the greatest weapon the Ultraverse Army has. They owe a lot to him.” Ivan said, “The Ultraverse Army is corrupt. We are in a war with them now. The Ultraverse citizens deserve to know the truth.”

The door to the archive barges open and Colonel Howard is there with some Ultraverse army men at his sides. Howard points to Ivan and Roswell and he said, “I knew you would find a way into the archives. Get them.” Ivan and Roswell draw out their swords and they go to heroic battle against the army men. Ivan jumps and slashes the head of one

of them with his sword. Roswell bashes some of the army men away from him and Roswell gets a grip on the film reel. Roswell is about to fly away and Howard's arm grabs onto Roswell causing him to drop the film reel. Howard said, "You're not getting away from me that easy." More army men jump at Ivan and Ivan dodges them and Colonel Howard jumps over them and in front of Ivan. Colonel Howard smacks Ivan in the head and he grabs onto his head and flips him over leaving several cracks in the floor. Howard grabs the film reel and he breaks it and rips up the film.

Colonel Howard throws Ivan and Roswell into the training simulator and it is the environment with the heavy metal beams. Howard is in the control room and he sets the beams for the most brutal setting. Beams fly out at Ivan and Roswell and they dodge the beams. They move fast and they come close to sandwiching Ivan. A yin-yang forms over Ivan and Ivan forms into his yellow and green yin-yang mech. Ivan grabs Roswell and he jumps through the beams and dodges them. Roswell points to a panel near the ceiling. Roswell said, "I think that panel is where the control room is." Ivan uses the flaming blue sword and he jumps to the panel and slashes it revealing the control room with Howard behind the controls. Ivan gets to the controls and Howard kicks Ivan in the head. Howard jumps into the simulation and he said, "If you want something done right, you have to do it yourself." Howard grabs onto Ivan and he smashes his body down on the floor. Howard swings Ivan around and Ivan's chest collides with one of the beams. Ivan's mech becomes cracked and Ivan forms back into his normal self. Howard stands triumphant over Ivan. Howard said, "This is where you will die. You will suffer a more horrid fate than your monk comrades ever will." Roswell tries flying to the control room. Howard said, "No you don't." He grabs onto the leg of Roswell. Ivan jumps on Howard and he runs up his thick arm and he jumps off Roswell and he gets to the controls. Ivan takes control of the beams and he makes one strike at Howard from behind. Howard turns around fast and he grabs onto the beam. An intense storm of beams come flying at Howard and two of them sandwich his head and they shatter his skull into dust.

An Ultraverse news channel comes on a screen and the reporter said, "Ultraverse grand mega hero, Colonel Stone Howard was killed today during a training practice in a simulation machine at the Ultraverse Monk Dojo. Howard was a beloved figure in the Ultraverse for decades but new footage that was given to us from a digital archive says otherwise." The screen shows footage of Howard's atrocities. The news reporter continues, "This new footage shows a side of Howard that is different from the one we have known. It seems he may have actually been a war criminal this whole time and we didn't know anything about it. He was exposed by Ultraverse Monks, Ivan and Roswell. It also seems as if Howard attempted to destroy a physical film reel of the new footage that was shown. It is a good thing a digital version of it existed in Roswell's new digital archive. This way the truth will be known forever. Even though he is a criminal, a funeral will still be held for his fans and supporters that he still has."

Howard is given a funeral where he is in a coffin that has the flag of the Ultraverse draped over it. Army men pay their respects while some of Howard's fans watch the funeral.

The monks recover from their injuries and they see Ivan in the monastery. Safron said, "I am so impressed with you, Ivan. You took on what was supposed to be an impossible challenge but you pulled it off. You are a much better hero than Howard ever will be." Dirk said, "That Howard got what he deserved. I am glad that fool is dead." Keith said, "I never

would have dared challenge Howard. I guess there is nothing that you are not capable of.” Ivan has replaced Howard as being the honored hero of the Ultraverse. Howard Day was replaced with Ivan Day which is honored by allowing people to continue with their everyday lives as if it is just a normal day.